

SUNNYSIDE
 Home of Mary Swartz, widow of
 officer a famous Civil War Union
 soldier in 1862. The house, a
 historic well built, 2 1/2 and a
 1/2 story house, was built in 1844
 by the Swartz family and was
 the home of Mary Swartz in 1862.
 President John F. Kennedy in 1964
 lived for 40 days in the house.
 was added to the National Historic
 Register in 1974. The house is
 the last of the Swartz family.

SUNNYSIDE
Home of Mary Benton, widow of
James Benton, who left Nashville
after a famous feud with Andrew
Jackson in 1811. The Greek Revival
house was built c. 1815 and stands
between Union and Confederate lines
during the Battle of Nashville in 1864.
President Grant, L. G. Noel lived
here for 45 years. The brick walls
were added by Col. Granville Smith
during reconstruction of the house in
the late 1920s.

***Meet Our New MHZC Staff Member, 2011 Preservation Awards,
30th Annual Conference on African-American History and Culture***

Meet Our **New** MHZC Staff Member

New! Internship Opportunities

New! Historical Markers Now Online

In 1967, the Metropolitan Historical Commission initiated its Historical Marker program to commemorate significant people, places, and events in the city's past. The marker program is now one of the Commission's most successful

and longest-running programs, having erected 139 markers to date. Markers erected by the Metropolitan Historical Commission are easy to recognize—they all feature the seal of the Metropolitan Government of Nashville & Davidson County (markers erected by the Tennessee Historical Commission feature the three stars of the state flag). We recently updated our website to include information about all of our markers, including text, location, and date erected. Markers are organized by category: Nashville Sites, Military Sites, Notable People, and Religious Sites. Please visit our website and have a look!

Ongoing! The Metropolitan Historical Commission is turning 45!

Did you know that 2011 marks the 45th anniversary of the establishment of the Metropolitan Historical Commission? To celebrate this exciting milestone, each month we will feature a few historic preservation highlights from Nashville history.

February 23, 1972 – **A banner day for Davidson County additions to the National Register of Historic Places!** Two Rivers, the Second Avenue Commercial District, The Parthenon, and the Old Gymnasium at Vanderbilt University were all officially listed in the National Register on this date. Two Rivers and The Parthenon (along with Centennial Park) were designated local Historic Landmarks in July 1999, and Second Avenue became a Historic Preservation Zoning Overlay District in March 1997. Not to be outdone, the Old Gym received a Preservation Award from the MHC at the Second Annual Architectural Awards Program in 1974.

Many other properties were listed in the National Register in Februaries of years past: Tulip Grove (1970), Fisk University Historic District (1978), Demonbreun's Cave (1980), Cheatham Building (1980), and Longleat (1984).

February 16, 1983 – After holding the first “Metro Nashville Conference on Afro-American History and Culture” on September 9, 1981, co-hosting organizations Tennessee State University and the Metropolitan Historical Commission held the second conference on this date. Next week, we celebrate the 30th anniversary of this annual gathering of historians, educators, students, and friends--now known as the **Nashville Conference on African-American History and Culture**.

February 19, 2001 – In November 1996, the United States Congress officially designated the **Tennessee Civil War National Heritage Area** (TCWNHA). In 1998, the Center for Historic Preservation (CHP) at Middle Tennessee State University was charged with creating a Compact and Master Plan to develop, implement, and manage the TCWNHA. At a ceremony on this date, Governor Don Sundquist approved the Compact and Master Plan developed by the CHP and its statewide partners. The TCWNHA covers the entire state of Tennessee and tells the whole story of America's greatest challenge, 1860-1875. As you plan your commemoration of the Civil War Sesquicentennial, we hope you will

visit sites and attend events in Nashville and throughout the Tennessee Civil War National Heritage Area. For more information about the TCWNHA, please visit www.tncivilwar.org.

February 25, 2005 – Dedication of MHC historical marker honoring Randall Jarrell. Want to know more about this person and this marker? Visit our website!

PRESERVATION AWARDS

New! Call for Nominations: 2010 Preservation Awards

Nomination forms are now available for the Metropolitan Historical Commission's 36th Annual Preservation Awards program. **The deadline to submit nominations is Friday, March 25, 2011.** We are still planning this year's event, so please check back for more information about judging and the awards ceremony. To learn more about the awards program and to download the nomination form, please visit the Preservation Awards page of our website: www.nashville.gov/mhc.

CONFERENCES, TOURS AND EVENTS

NEW!!

30th Annual Nashville Conference on African-American History & Culture

Wednesday, February 9, 2011

8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Tennessee State University

Avon Williams Campus

The 30th annual Nashville Conference on African-American History and Culture will be held on February 9, 2011 at the downtown campus of Tennessee State University (10th and Charlotte). **This year's conference will commemorate two historic events paramount in the African American struggle for freedom, both the Civil War and the 1961 Freedom Rides.** Featured speakers include genealogist John Baker, archaeologist Kevin Smith, and historians Carole Bucy and Learotha Williams; the conference will also include performances by jazz recording artist Dara Tucker and dramatists Sista Style Productions. Registration is \$20.00, and includes lunch. Pre-registration has closed, but onsite registration will begin at 8:30 a.m. on the day of the event. For more information, please visit our website or call 862-7970.

Don't miss this award-winning event, sponsored by the Metro Historical Commission and Tennessee State University.

New!

Black History Month at The Hermitage, Home of President Andrew

Jackson

Every Thursday evening throughout the month of February, The Hermitage will offer a performance or lecture highlighting African-American culture. Programs in February 2011 will focus on music, dance, and culinary traditions. The events are FREE, but reservations are requested. For more information or to RSVP, please call (615) 889-2941 x243 or email education@thehermitage.com. Please visit www.thehermitage.com for a full schedule of events.

Ongoing! Electrifying Times: How Power Transformed Our City

January 29-May 22, 2011

Nashville Public Library

615 Church Street

Courtyard Gallery

Main library hours: Tues-Fri 9-6; Sat 9-5; Sun 2-5 (closed Mondays)

During the first half of the 20th century, electricity dramatically changed the lives of urban and rural Nashvillians, Tennesseans and Americans. Come see this exhibit hosted by Nashville Public Library that highlights materials found in the Nashville Electric Service Public Relations Records (c. 1866-1989), a collection of archival photographs and documents that illuminates over 100 years of our city's history. Images of street cars, early downtown lights and early household appliances are featured. For more information, call 862-5782.

Note: The Nashville Railway and Light Company offices were located in the Watkins Building on the 600 block of Church Street on the site of today's (2010-11) Nashville Public Library.

The Metropolitan Historical Commission publishes this monthly newsletter to keep you informed on events and happenings at the MHC. If you have questions, comments, or news to pass along, please email scarlett.miles@nashville.gov, with E-NEWS in the subject line.

Metropolitan Historical Commission

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